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MYSURU Monday 25th August 2025
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50% rebate on traffic penalty

Rs. 55 lakh collected in two days; 22,154 cases closed

Website glitches mar traffic fine rebate drive

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RK&KS)- Following the State Government's announcement of a 50 percent rebate on e-challan traffic fines to help motorists with multiple pending violations clear their dues, the City Traffic Police have begun collecting pending fines amounting to nearly Rs. 400 crore.

According to a notification issued by V.S. Pushpa, Under-Secretary, Transport Department, on Aug. 21, 2025, the rebate order is in effect across the State from Aug. 23 to Sept. 12.

In Mysuru, Traffic Police began collecting fines from Aug. 23. On the first day, Rs. 33,89,900 was collected and 13,285 cases were closed. On second day, Rs. 21,11,700 was collected with 8,869 cases closed, said City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar. In all, Rs. 55,01,600 has been collected in two days and 22,154 cases have been closed.

(See REBATE on page 7)

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STAR OF MYSORE

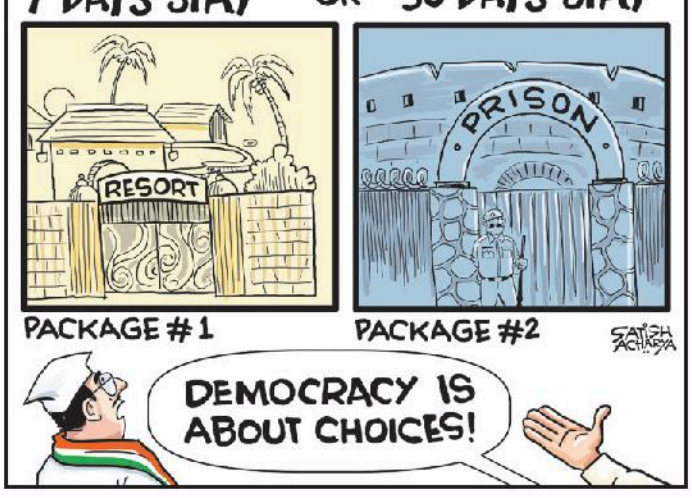
"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 25th August 2025

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya



EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE ENDURING POWER OF VIRTUE: ***As moral standards decline the world over there is a disdain for ethics. This is manifested in widespread corruption, violence and lawlessness. The desire to succeed, compete and be the best may well be programmed in our genes. It is perhaps necessary for survival.***

Worldly success is usually associated with recognition, wealth and power. Recognition is an affirmation of the skill, appreciation, sacrifice and talent displayed by the person, group or institution. When a society fails to make a fair judgement of recognition the faith in excellence is eroded. This is probably the point where the rot begins.

Wealth can be something a person is born into, earned through honest enterprise, or made by unethical means. Reducing all wealth to the size of a number muddies the distinction between ethical and unethical means. The belief that means don't matter takes root and has serious consequences for society.

Power is a double-edged weapon. Even sages who gain it through harsh sacrifices pay a price for misusing it. For the ordinary mortal the line between the use and misuse of power is always difficult to draw.

In this atmosphere dominated by cynicism it is easy to miss the calming effect of virtue. Even as morality and ethics change with time and across societies, the concepts they are derived from remain. Truth, justice, wisdom and moderation are valid at all times. Truth and justice create a fair-minded society. They build integrity. Even as heroism makes a person push beyond barriers, wisdom tells us when to pull back. It is perhaps the most important of virtues. Moderation checks anger, hate and the desire for revenge. It checks both fear and favour.

Virtue builds a society where recognition, wealth and power can be enjoyed honourably. The individual who lives a virtuous life transcends the desire for recognition, wealth and power. The individual becomes endowed to handle all that there is with equanimity. Such perfect virtuosity may not be common. More frequently, individuals may have ignored aspects of virtue while pursuing recognition, wealth and power. There are no limits to these worldly goals. As Elon Musk's actions tell us even the world's richest man would want more. But there is a point, usually towards the end of a person's life, where there is a recognition of the limits of what the world has to offer. At that point the mind moves back to truth, justice, wisdom and moderation. Virtue has the last word.

— Jamuna Rao in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

'Spiderman' on bike stunt fined

Rourkela: Dressing and acting like "Spiderman" to perform dangerous stunts on a road proved to be costly for a man in Rourkela after he was issued a fine of Rs. 15,000 for a series of traffic violations.

On Wednesday, the man was spotted dressed in a "Spiderman" attire, and without a helmet, overspeeding on his motorcycle with modified silencer on a busy street, was also seen performing stunts, causing severe inconvenience to other motorists and pedestrians.

The man was immediately stopped after he was spotted by the Traffic Policemen. According to sources, the man was unable to justify his action during the course of investigation. His motorbike was eventually seized and he was issued a challan of Rs. 15,000 by the Police.

Dog fights bull; bags Hambone Award

California: Nationwide Pet Insurance announced a California dog Ziya, a Belgian malinois, who faced off with a bull to protect his family is the winner of this year's Hambone Award.

The Hambone Award, given annually for "the unexpected, the unusual and downright outrageous" ways pets find themselves in need of medical attention, was named in honor of a dog who ate an entire holiday ham while trapped in a refrigerator. Ziya, stepped between his owner Tim and a rampaging bull during a walk in northern California.

Ziya was chosen as the winner in an online vote, besting a field of nine other finalists.

While his owners escaped to safety, the bull struck Ziya in the jaw. Ziya made a full recovery and now hopes that future walks will not involve horned adversaries.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Why do autoimmune diseases confuse patients ?
Because they can affect skin, lungs, kidneys, or even blood — not just joints.

By Dr. Sangeetha K N - Consultant - Rheumatology
Manipal Hospital, Mysuru

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Special lecture on Aug. 29 to recall legacy of D. Devaraj Urs

Devaraj Urs

Mysuru, Aug. 25- City-based Anveshana Seva Trust is organising a special lecture programme to commemorate the 110th birth anniversary of former Chief Minister of Karnataka late D. Devaraj Urs on Aug.29 from 10.30 am at the auditorium of Institution of Engineers, JLB Road.

The speakers will share their opinion about the programmes formulated by the late CM for the welfare of the backward classes of the society.

District Minister and Minister for Social Welfare Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa will inaugurate the programme. Former Chairman of Kanteerava Studios, Bengaluru, Vijayalakshmi Urs, will preside.

MLC Dr. D. Thimmaiah and President of Anveshana Seva Trust Dr. M.G.R. Urs will speak about the achievements of Devaraj Urs and his contribution to the welfare of the weaker sections.

Ursu Jagruti Academy Charitable Trust Vice-President H.A. Venkatesh and Founder-President of Anveshana Seva Trust Arya Amarnath Raje Urs will participate as chief guests.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **123.80 feet**	Today's level **2,283.69 feet**	Today's level **2,857.80 feet**
Last year's level **123.72 feet**	Last year's level **2,282.32 feet**	Last year's level **2,857.70 feet**
Yesterday's level **123.75 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,283.79 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,857.67 feet**
Today's Inflow **7,477 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **4,020 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **2,533 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **6,497 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **4,650 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **2,000 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Nilgiri wood pigeon is a large pigeon found in the moist deciduous forests and sholas of the Western Ghats in Southwestern India. They are mainly frugivorous and forage in the canopy of dense hill forests.***
- ***Wood pigeon is a real delicacy and is becoming increasingly popular in British restaurants.***
- ***The white-bellied treepie is 48 cm (19 in) long.***
- ***The back of the neck is white while the throat and breast are black.***
- ***Their thighs are black and the undertail coverts are chestnut.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Master: *Who stole my money?*
Servant: *The thief.*
Master: *How do you know?*
Servant: *Because I helped him!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 87.45
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 118.17
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.81
1 Euro	= Rs. 102.37

VOICE OF THE READER

Non-functional equipment delays funeral at Muktidhama

Sir,

I was at Muktidhama, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, on 21.8.2025, to attend the funeral of Raju Chengappa, resident of Ramakrishnanagar H Block, Mysuru (Retired Chief Officer, TMC, Government of Karnataka). The time given to us was 12 noon.

However, by the time the body, relatives, family and friends reached the crematorium, another cremation was already taking place at the same time.

The employee at Muktidhama simply asked us to wait and then left the premises. As a result, all the senior citizens, ladies and well-wishers had to wait with the body for over two hours. During this period, the grieving wife of Raju Chengappa fell unconscious and had to be rushed to the hospital.

Finally, the in-charge person arrived only at 2 pm, and the last rites were conducted thereafter. This unfortunate delay was caused by the negligence of staff and the non-functioning of other electric cremation equipment at Muktidhama.

I sincerely hope the Commissioner of the Mysuru City Corporation will take note of this incident and initiate corrective measures, so that grieving families and relatives are not subjected to such unnecessary mental tension and hardship in the future.

—**Kattera A. Chengappa**
Dattagalli
23.8.2025

Never forget the contribution of your Gurus: Infosys VP Vinayak Hegde

661 students receive degrees at 15th Graduation Day of Amrita

Mysuru, Aug. 25- "Always remember the contribution of your Gurus, just as you remember your parents. Convocation is not only about going for higher studies or jobs, it is about stepping into life itself," said Vinayak Hegde, Vice-President (VP) and Head, Infosys, Mysuru.

Addressing the 15th Graduation Day of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Mysuru Campus, yesterday, he told the fresh graduates that their degree is not the end, but the beginning of new responsibilities — to live with integrity, fairness, and excellence.

He urged students to dream big, embrace resilience as much as achievement, and remain lifelong learners who stay open to ideas, value teamwork, and choose the right company of peers.

Swami Poornamritananda Puri, General Secretary of Mata Amritanandamayi Mutt, delivered benedictory address.

A total of 661 students (Ph.D., UG and PG) received their degrees during the graduation ceremony, including 61 rank holders and medal winners, with 13 gold and 12 silver medals awarded.

Dr. P. Ajith Kumar, Registrar of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham; Dr. P. Krishnakumar, Controller of Examinations, Amrita Vidyapeetham; Br. Anantaananda Chaitanya, Director, Mysuru Campus; Br. Muktidamrta Chaitanya, Corespondent, Mysuru Campus; Dr. Shekar Babu, Associate Dean, Mysuru Campus; Dr. G. Ravindranath, Principal, Mysuru Campus and others were present.

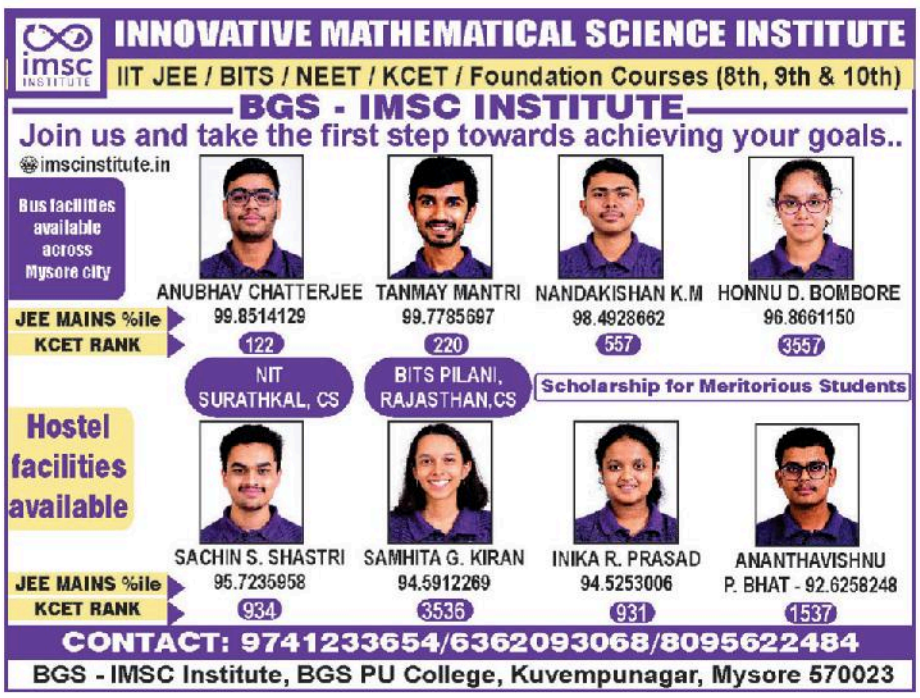
Kannada Sahitya Parishat's Kannada Exams

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru District Unit, will conduct Kannada Pravesha, Kannada Kava, Kannada Jaana and Kannada Ratna exams, for which it has invited applications from eligible persons.

State Government employees and school children may make use of the opportunity. According to a Government order, Government officers and staff, who clear these Kannada exams conducted by Kannada Sahitya Parishat, will be exempt from Kannada exams from their respective Departments.

Last date to apply is Sept. 15. The exams will be held in December, 2025.

For details, contact District Kannada Sahitya Parishat Manager or call Mob: 91648-37773, according to a press release from Parishat District President Maddikere Gopal.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Results announced

Karnataka State Dr. Gangubai Hangal (KSGH) Music and Performing Arts University has announced the results of State-level Special Music, Dance and Talavadya Junior, Senior, Pre-Vidwat & Final Vidwat Theory and Practical Exams on its website *(musicuniversity.ac.in)*. Certificates will be distributed to the rank holders on Aug. 30 at 11.30 am at the University premises, according to a press release.

Health Camps

A free health camp has been organised at Suyog Hospital in Ramakrishnanagar from Aug. 25 to 30. Gynaecologist and Obstetrician Dr. H.N. Geetha will be available for consultation. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2533600 or Mob: 99863-99862.

JSS Ayurveda Hospital, Lalitadripura Road, Alanahalli, Mysuru is conducting medical camp on varsha basti from Aug. 23 to 30. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2548231 or Mob: 98866-00552.

Ph.D awardees

S. Vijayakumar has been awarded Ph.D in Library and Information Science by the University of Mysore (UoM), Mysuru, for his thesis 'Content Analysis of Indian Instructional Videos in Library and Information Science' submitted under the guidance of Dr. N.S. Harinarayana.

M.S. Mamatha has been awarded Ph.D in Economics by the University of Mysore for her thesis titled 'The Economic Impact of Ageing Population in India' submitted under the guidance of Dr. H.R. Uma.

M. Deepu has been awarded Ph.D in Commerce by the University of Mysore for her thesis 'Role of Real Estate Agencies and Developers in Implementation of RERA Act - A Study' submitted under the guidance of Dr. Prakash B. Nayak.

C. Shruthi has been awarded Ph.D in Commerce by the University of Mysore for her thesis titled 'Risk Management in Public Sector Banks - A Study' submitted under the guidance of Dr. Prakash B. Nayak.

S.R. Mahesh seeks arrest of those behind 'Mask Man'

JD(S) car and bike rally to Dharmasthala today

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (BLU&DM)- Former Minister and senior JD(S) leader S.R. Mahesh has demanded the arrest of all those behind 'Mask Man' Chinnaiah, the complainant in the Dharmasthala 'mass burial' case.

Speaking at a press conference in Mysuru yesterday, Mahesh said that the Government must act against those attempting to malign Dharmasthala with baseless allegations.

He alleged that certain individuals, groups and vested forces were deliberately trying to tarnish the name of the famed shrine, which attracts lakhs of devotees from across the country every year. "The Government should identify the forces behind this false propaganda and punish them," he urged.

Mahesh announced that JD(S) will take out a car rally today (Aug. 25) from Mysuru to Dharmasthala to protest against the "false propaganda" targeting the shrine. The rally will begin from Sa.Ra. Convention Hall on Dattagalli Ring Road in Kanakadasanagar. Another group of 200 cars and bikes from Mandya, led by former Minister C.S. Puttaraju, will join the rally at Yelwal. The procession will pass through K.R. Nagar, Haradanahalli and other towns before reaching Dharmasthala.

Former Minister and senior JD(S) leader S.R. Mahesh addressing a press conference in Mysuru yesterday.

Taking a dig at MLC Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah's recent remark that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had done more for Mysuru than Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar, Mahesh said, "While Nalwadi pledged gold to construct KRS Dam, Siddaramaiah has borrowed recklessly to run the Government, pushing a heavy debt burden onto every citizen of the State."

Alleging rampant corruption, caste-based discrimination and bribery in Government Departments, Mahesh claimed that transfer bribes now range anywhere between Rs. 15 lakh and Rs. 1 crore.

On CM Siddaramaiah's comment that JD(S) strength in the Assembly would decline further, Mahesh retorted that the CM should not forget it was JD(S) Supremo H.D. Deve Gowda who first gave him the Finance portfolio. "Siddaramaiah lacks the broad-mindedness of Deve Gowda," he added.

Former Mayor R. Lingappa, former Deputy Mayor Krishna, former Corporators Bhagya Mahadesh, Shobha, Ashwini Ananthu and leaders Kumaraswamy, Dwarakish, Boregowda and others were present at the press meet.

SIT quizzes YouTuber Sameer for five hours

Police seek surrender of phone, laptop used for AI-generated Dharmasthala video

Belthangady, Aug. 25 (Agencies)- YouTuber M.D. Sameer appeared before the Belthangady Police yesterday in connection with allegations of defaming the family of Dharmasthala's religious authorities — a revered institution for Hindus. He is also accused of provoking people to rise in opposition against Dharmasthala.

The case was initiated after Dharmasthala PSI Samarth R. Ganigera filed a complaint on July 12, following the release of a video on Sameer's YouTube channel 'Dhootha'. The video allegedly revealed sensitive details related to the case.

Sameer reported to the station in the morning and underwent continuous questioning for five hours. His voice sample was collected, and he has been instructed to return today (Aug. 25) for further inquiry. Police have directed him to bring the mobile phone used to shoot the controversial video and the laptop used to upload it, with both devices likely to be seized.

Dharmasthala Police have registered a *suo motu* case under Sections 240 (false information), 192 (provocation with intent to cause riot) and 353(1)(B) (statements conducing to public mischief) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

AI-generated video

According to investigators, Sameer created an AI-generated video lasting 23 minutes and 52 seconds, fabricating details that went beyond the original complaint and the witness's Court statement. This was despite the complainant's identity being protected under the Witness Protection Scheme of 2018.

Recently, the Court granted Sameer anticipatory bail in the defamation case. However, he continues to face allegations of inciting public unrest through provocative video content.

Multiple cases of defamation and incitement have since been registered, and as part of his bail conditions, the Court has directed him to cooperate with the inquiry. Sameer has also claimed threats to his life. Following this, the Police instructed him to present himself at Belthangady Station for further proceedings.

Obituary

Ponjanda Neelamma

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Ponjanda Neelamma (Rani - Shantheyanda), wife of Ponjanda S. Arjun and a resident of Srirampura 2nd Stage here, passed away yesterday in city. She was 81.

She leaves behind her husband, sons Ponjanda A. Ganapathy (President of Kodava Samaja Mysuru) and Girish, daughter Nellira Kavitha and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

H.R. Krishna Kumar

H.R. Krishna Kumar (67), retired officer of State Bank of India (SBI), Kuvempunagar Branch and a resident of SBM Layout in Vivekanandanagar, passed away following a heart attack yesterday in city. He leaves behind his wife Mala, sons Karthik and Koushik and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Kuvempunagar Burial Grounds this afternoon.

Nagamma

Nagamma (74), wife of Narayanaswamy and a resident of Undawadi in Yelwal hobli, passed away yesterday in the taluk.

She leaves behind her husband, sons Ramesh and Umesh (MUDA — now MDA — Contractor) and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at the family's farm land in Undawadi.

Sundar

Nanjangud: Sundar (47), Proprietor of Shreya Traders and a resident of Hullahalli village, passed away yesterday at the village. He leaves behind his wife, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Magge in H.D. Kote taluk.

Second batch of five Dasara jumbos to arrive this evening

To be welcomed at Jayamarthanda Gate

People taking selfies and clicking pictures of Dasara elephants on their routine march yesterday.

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (MTY&KS)- The second batch of five Dasara elephants, including three debutants, will be welcomed into the Mysore Palace through Jayamarthanda Gate at 4 pm today on their arrival from forest camps.

The five elephants, which include three males and two females are: 43-year-old Gopi, 43-year-old Sugreeva and 11-year-old Hemavathi (debutant) from Dubare Elephant Camp, 56-year-old Srikanta (debutant) from Mathigodu Elephant Camp and 44-year-old Roopa (debutant) from Bheemanakatte Elephant Camp.

Elephant Bhima, which arrived in the first batch, topped the chart at 5,465 kg when its weight was checked on Aug. 11. But Srikanta, which will be participating for the first time in Dasara festivities this year, is heavier than Bhima and it is said that he is the strongest among other Dasara elephants. He is also tipped to become the Golden Howdah carrier in future.

It may be recalled that the first batch of nine Dasara elephants led by Captain and Golden Howdah carrier Abhimanyu arrived in city on Aug. 4 and entered Mysore Palace on Aug. 10. The nine Dasara elephants are now put on special diet. Training to make them familiar on *Jumboo Savari* route and get accustomed to the traffic has begun.

Yesterday, the nine Dasara jumbos underwent route familiarisation training in the presence of hundreds of people. When the jumbos, which were led out through Balarama Gate, adjacent to Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple, hundreds of people clicked photos of their favourite elephant and also took videos of their march.

Yesterday being a Sunday, tourists had also arrived in large numbers and witnessed the elephants marching on *Jumboo Savari* route. As a marathon was also flagged off at the same time, the runners ran along the jumbos for some distance after which the Police and Forest Department personnel asked them to stay at a safe distance from the elephants.

The elephants marched till the Old RMC Circle and returned to the Palace disappointing those who were waiting beyond Old RMC Circle as they had thought that the elephants would march till the Torchlight Parade Grounds in Bannimantap. This year, Dasara festivities will commence on Sept. 22 and will conclude with *Jumboo Savari* on Oct. 2.

MLA Veerendra 'Puppy' remanded to ED custody

Veerendra Puppy

Bengaluru, Aug. 25 (VNS)- Congress MLA K.C. Veerendra 'Puppy,' who was arrested by Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials on Aug. 23 from Gangtok in Sikkim, in a case related to illegal betting scam, was produced before a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) Court yesterday which remanded him to ED custody till Aug. 28.

On Saturday, Veerendra 'Puppy' was brought on a transit warrant from Sikkim and was straightaway taken to ED office in Shanthinagar from Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). He was produced before the Court after undergoing medical tests yesterday morning.

The Enforcement Directorate has intensified its investigation on Veerendra 'Puppy' for suspected money laundering through casinos and shell companies in Sri Lanka, Nepal and Georgia.

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Notice is given to the general public at large that my client is negotiating and intending to purchase the notice schedule property from its owners **"Sri. Ramakrishna S/o Late Sri. Kempeeregowda"** aged about 48 years and their family members and **"Sri. Nagaraju K S/o Sri. Kempegowda"** aged about 42 years, residing at, Siddaramanahundi Village, Varuna Hobli, Mysuru Taluk, Mysuru 570 010. Any individuals, banks, financial institutions, governmental agencies, statutory bodies, etc having any objections for my client entering into any transaction including purchase of the notice schedule property is hereby required to communicate their objections in writing to my office with documentary evidence within 07 days from the date of this publication. In the absence of any authenticated objections/claims, my client will proceed to complete the transaction of sale and no claim in this regard will be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

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Selection of Banu Mushtaq as Dasara guest

Not a secular event but a deeply religious one: Prathap Simha

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (BCT) - Former MP Prathap Simha has strongly objected to the Karnataka Government's decision to invite International Booker Prize-winning author Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate this year's Mysuru Dasara festival.

Prathap Simha

Addressing media persons in city yesterday, Simha said that while he deeply admired Mushtaq's literary achievements, Dasara was not merely a cultural programme but a deeply Hindu religious festival rooted in devotion to Goddess Chamundeshwari.

"We hold immense respect for Banu Mushtaq's work. She deserves to be honoured as the President of a literary conference. But Dasara is a religious observance, not a secular event. It should not be inaugurated by someone whose beliefs do not align with its spiritual essence," he said.

Simha questioned the appropriateness of inviting Mushtaq, a Muslim, to inaugurate a festival that begins with traditional prayers to the Goddess. "Dasara is about faith in Chamundeshwari. How fitting is it to have someone from another religion, who may not share this devotion, inaugurate it?" he asked.

'Ignoring Hindu sentiments'

He cited previous controversies over the selection of personalities such as writers

> **"We hold immense respect for Banu Mushtaq's work. She deserves to be honoured as the President of a literary conference. But Dasara is a religious observance, not a secular event. It should not be inaugurated by someone whose beliefs do not align with its spiritual essence, Simha said.**

Baraguru Ramachandrappa and Girish Karnad, arguing that their views were at odds with the festival's spiritual ethos.

"Ramachandrappa did not light the lamp nor visit the Chamundeshwari Temple during the inauguration, while Karnad was known for his hatred towards Hindu beliefs," Simha said.

Alleging that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was continuing a pattern of decisions that ignored Hindu sentiments, Simha added, "This is not about Banu Mushtaq alone — it is about respecting the faith of the majority. The Government must reconsider."

Banu's response

Unfazed by the controversy, Banu Mushtaq responded, "I will not make any comment against them or anyone to belittle my country." Notably, there is a precedent. In 2017, writer Nisar Ahmed, also a Muslim, inaugurated the Dasara festivities and there was no backlash then, she added.

Banu Mushtaq's 2023 speech on Bhuvaneshwari sparks row

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (BCT)- Following Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's announcement that International Booker Prize-winning author Banu Mushtaq would inaugurate this year's Mysuru Dasara festival, a video of her 2023 address at the 'Jana Sahitya Sammelana' in Bengaluru has resurfaced and gone viral on social media.

Banu Mushtaq

In the clip, Mushtaq is heard saying, "You've smeared turmeric and vermilion on Kannada and turned it into Bhuvaneshwari with a red and yellow flag. Where am I supposed to stand now? What should I see? How should I be involved? The conspiracy to oust me hasn't begun today — it's been unfolding for a long time."

The statement, drawn from a deeply personal account, reflecting her sense of linguistic and cultural marginalisation, has triggered sharp criticism now.

Banu's perspective

At the 'Jana Sahitya Sammelana,' Mushtaq was addressing Kannada Development Authority (KDA) Chairman Purushothama Bilimale about Kannada language, its literature and cultural identity.

Offering her perspective as a woman from a minority community, she had said: "Whether you find it agreeable or uncomfortable, I do not know. But I must say this — when it comes to nurturing Kannada as a language, when it comes to me speaking it, or my family speaking it, you have never truly given us the space."

She continued: "You turned Kannada into Bhuvaneshwari, pulled the chariot of Kannada, held Kannada festivals and formed Kannada Parishats — what have you truly done? To oust me, did you need such elaborate conspiracies?"

'Mask Man' confesses: Skull not from Dharmasthala

Forensic report exposes skull's origin; Delhi link emerges; secret meetings suspected

Mangaluru/Mandya, Aug. 25 (BCT)- The mystery surrounding the skull brought by C.N. Chinnaiah (Mask Man) in the alleged Dharmasthala 'mass burial' has finally seen a breakthrough.

Chinnaiah

The Special Investigation Team (SIT), which has kept the masked suspect in custody for the past ten days, is now unearthing explosive details. The SIT has started gathering crucial information related to Chinnaiah, the complainant, now named as the accused for fraud and fabricated evidence.

A team of SIT officials has gone to Mandya and Tamil Nadu and is collecting details from his family members and friends. Chinnaiah is found to have resided in a village at Mandya and also in Tamil Nadu along with his family.

Delhi link

Investigations have revealed that the skull was taken to Delhi even before officials in Dharmasthala could examine it. A conspiracy gang had allegedly escorted Chinnaiah — along with the skull — to the capital, where he was made to meet influential figures and narrate the entire back-story of the case.

Reports suggest that a major deal may have taken place behind closed doors during these meetings. The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report has further shed light on the mystery.

Chinnaiah, who had secured protection under the Witness Protection Act while in possession of the skull, had been under scrutiny of the SIT. Based on his statements, officials carried out excavations at 17 different locations.

However, when pressed about the skull's origin, Chinnaiah gave conflicting answers — sometimes claiming it was from "Boliyar," other times "Kalleri" and at times pointing to entirely different places.

Crucially, forensic analysis confirmed that the soil traces on the skull did not match the Dharmasthala region.

According to SIT sources, the skull handed over by Chinnaiah had actually been procured by his gang from a medical research centre. Experts informed investigators that the skull was nearly 40 years old and had been coated with varnish to preserve it for long-term use.

With this evidence in hand, the SIT tightened its questioning. Under sustained interrogation, Chinnaiah finally admitted that the skull was brought from another location and that he had acted under instructions from others.

Dharmasthala 'mass burial' case

Absence of basic common sense in investigation evident: Rajanna

Tumakuru, Aug. 25 (Agencies)- Former Congress Minister K.N. Rajanna has come down heavily on his own party for the initial handling of the Dharmasthala case, alleging that using an unrelated skull to defame the revered shrine of Hindus was a deliberate attempt to tarnish the sacred site's reputation at the national level.

Addressing reporters in city yesterday, Rajanna said, "Once a body is buried, no one has the authority to exhume it without due legal process. If exhumation is required, it must be done in the presence of the jurisdictional Magistrate. The law is clear on who has authority over a buried body and under what conditions."

He questioned why no inquiry was conducted into the skull's origin before the probe began. "Launching an investigation without verifying the source was reckless and has unnecessarily damaged Dharmasthala's reputation," he remarked.

Rajanna also criticised the Special Investigation Team (SIT) for escalating the case without justification. "They dug indiscriminately across several locations, causing distress to local residents," he said.

Expressing strong disapproval of the investigation, Rajanna said the absence of "basic common sense" in the early stages created avoidable chaos.

"This is not about left-wing or right-wing politics. The complainant's background and motives should have been thoroughly examined before proceeding. Instead, authorities rushed to record a Section 164 statement before a Magistrate and formed an SIT, escalating the matter needlessly," he added.

Stressing that the first step should have been interrogating the person who brought the skull, Rajanna concluded, "Had this been done from the outset, much of the current uproar could have been avoided."

Pralhad Joshi accuses Congress of hurting Hindu sentiments

Bengaluru, Aug. 25- Even as the Dharmasthala 'mass burial' case continues to fuel a war of words between the ruling Congress and Opposition BJP-JD(S) combine, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi alleged that the controversy is an attack on the religious sentiments of crores of Hindus.

Joshi

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Joshi accused the Congress Government in Karnataka of targeting the Hindu faith, saying devotees share a deep and special attachment with Dharmasthala.

He alleged that "anti-Dharmasthala forces" were using toolkits to defame the revered shrine, while the State Government had "blindly" ordered a probe based on the claims of the so-called 'masked man.'

"The Government has tried to destroy the sanctity of Dharmasthala, which has been preserved for decades. The probe and subsequent developments appear to be nothing more than a facade displayed on TV for over a fortnight," Joshi said.

He charged that the Government lacked clarity and had only staged a drama by arresting the complainant and taking action against a couple of others. "Congress has made a big mistake by attempting to tarnish the name of Dharmasthala. People of Karnataka are seeking answers from the Government for its follies," he said.

Home Minister defends choice of Dasara inaugurator

Dr. Parameshwar

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (BCT)- Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar has weighed in on the ongoing controversy over the choice of Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq as the inaugurator for this year's Mysuru Dasara, stressing that the festival is a celebration for everyone, beyond religious or caste boundaries.

Speaking to reporters in Mysuru this morning, he said, "Dasara is a festival of the land. It is not confined to any one religion or community. Can we celebrate Dasara by excluding one religion? Wasn't Mirza Ismail, the then Diwan, instrumental in organising Dasara? Didn't writer Nissar Ahmed inaugurate the festival in the past?"

The Home Minister urged critics not to politicise the issue. "Whether someone believes in Goddess Chamundeshwari or not is a personal matter. This is a community festival and it must be celebrated collectively," he said.

50% rebate: Penalty payment websites not working

Devaraja Traffic Police have opened a kiosk in front of Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple where traffic fine payment can be made by the motorists.

(Continued from page 1)

Motorists can pay fines at all Traffic Police Stations in city, the Traffic Management Centre in the Police Commissioner's Office premises or directly to Traffic Police during vehicle inspections.

For those unable to visit Stations, online provisions were made through KarnatakaOne ***https://www.karnatakaone.gov.in/*** and the Karnataka Police website ***https://echallan.ksp.gov.in/***

However, a major technical glitch has rendered both platforms non-functional. Users attempting to pay online are redirected back to the homepage, preventing payments. *Star of Mysore* received numerous calls from readers reporting the issue since yesterday.

With websites down, office-goers are facing additional hardship as they must seek permission from employers to leave work, stand in long queues at Traffic Police Stations and wait for their turn, resulting in wasted time and mounting frustration.

MDA e-auction done to boost real estate in Mysuru: Kautilya Raghu

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (MK&DM)- A couple of days after two MDA sites in Vijayanagar fourth stage measuring 20x30ft and 50x80ft went for a whopping Rs. 2 crore and Rs. 9 crore respectively in a MDA e-auction, State BJP OBC Morcha President Raghu Kautilya said that such shocking prices in e-auction might be a hidden attempt to boost the sagging real estate sector in Mysuru, which has been witnessing a downward trend following the unearthing of 50:50 alternative sites allotment scam last year.

Addressing the media persons at BJP Office in Chamarajapuram here this morning, Raghu said that the 50:50 alternative sites allotment scam in the then MUDA is one of the biggest scams in the State, resulting in a loss of thousands of crores to the Government. Subsequently, the Government scrapped MUDA and established a new Authority—Mysuru Development Authority (MDA). The MDA, which recently e-auctioned 200 of its sites, has announced that a 20x30 ft site in Vijayanagar went for Rs. 2 crore, while a 50x80 ft site in the same locality went for Rs. 9 crore, which has shocked everyone.

"Upon coming to know that these 2 sites have been sold much higher than the market price, one suspects that the real estate may have played its hand as a ploy to revive the sagging real estate sector in Mysuru. The real estate demand in Mysuru had gone down after the unearthing of the mega MUDA alternative sites scam last year and in this backdrop, it seems that the real estate sector, in a bid to rise its head again, has pushed up the site prices in e-auction multiple times that of the prevalent market rates", he noted.

State BJP OBC Morcha President Raghu R. Kautilya (centre) addressing media persons in city this morning as BJP office-bearers B.M. Santosh Kumar, Mahesh Raje Urs, Cable Mahesh and Papanna look on.

Continuing, Raghu said, "Though the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has directed the Sub-Registrar offices not to register the sites allotted under 50:50 sites plan, the MDA has not taken any action in this regard. The Government is yet to make public the Justice P.N. Desai Commission Report on the MUDA sites scam probe. This apart, the Lokayukta probe and the case being heard in the Special Court for People's Representatives seem to be concentrated only on the allotment of 14 alternative sites to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's family, while there seems to be no action on the part of the Government to get back the other looted sites, running up to as high as 5,000 in number. This apathy of the Congress Government to retain the sites, has been a cause of great concern to the members of the public who are waiting in queue for decades to get a site of their own".

"The Government should have confiscated such illegally allotted sites and subsequently issued a notification cancelling the allotment. But the Government has not taken any steps in this regard and the Deputy Commissioner, who is also the Chairman of the newly formed MDA, should publicly come up with facts and figures on the status of these sites. Such an announcement would largely help gullible buyers from getting cheated or falling prey to fraudsters", he said while wondering why MDA is silent on this matter.

Going by the developments, *prima facie*, it seems that the Government is trying to hush up the entire MUDA scam and thus save the scamsters from legal action and other consequences. Though the MUDA sites scam is a huge one, the Government has not bothered to act against any errant top officials and one of the reasons is that the CM's family is allegedly involved, he said.

"The MDA should immediately publish the status in detail of all sites allotted under the 50:50 ratio alternative sites allotment scheme. The Government should also disclose the names of all the allottees along with their profession and background and clarify whether these sites have been confiscated by the MDA as directed by the ED," he urged and warned that a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) would be filed in the Top Court if the Government continues to display its hidden agenda, trickery and apathy behind the non-disclosure of details of illegally allotted sites and their confiscation.

BJP office-bearers Cable Mahesh, Mahesh Raje Urs, B.M. Santosh Kumar and Papanna were present at the press meet.

Rotary Ivory City donates wheel chairs to District Hospital

Mysuru, Aug. 25- As part of their community service, Rotary Ivory City Mysuru (RICM) donated five wheel chairs to District Hospital on KRS Road here recently.

RICM President Rtn. Keshav Kanchan handed over the wheel chairs to District Surgeon Dr. Hari Prasad.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Hari Prasad said hundreds of patients are getting treated in the District Hospital every day. Though it is a government hospital, the philanthropists and service organisations like Rotary should come forward and help run the hospital with more facilities. Rotary's gesture goes a long way, he said.

Seen are Rtn. Pushpa Kanchan, Rtn. Shabanalftikar, Rtn. Dr. G.L. Shekar, Rtn. Latha Sachi, Rtn. Dr. Sachidanandan, Dr. Arvind (Senior Ortho Surgeon), Rtn. Dr. Asha Shekar, Dr. Hari Prasad (District Surgeon), Rtn. Keshav Kanchan (President, Rotary Ivory City Mysuru) and Rtn. Iftikar with the health care staff of the District Hospital on KRS Road in Mysuru after handing over the wheel chairs.

Advisory Talk for senior citizens on Sept. 1

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Elder Citizens Council, Jayalakshmipuram, has organised an 'Advisory Talk' programme, specially for the senior citizens, at Saraswathi Samudaya Bhavana in the Council premises on Sept. 1 at 5 pm.

The talk will be on counselling of senior citizens, particularly neglected, and gradually changing their lifestyle to enable them to come back to the mainstream to lead a healthy and peaceful life.

Speaker will be G. Chandrasekhar, Founder of Nisarga Peace Foundation, Mysuru, extending free yoga, dhyana and meditation and Founder of Jeevitha Foundation Centre, extending free counselling to neglected senior citizens. He has worked as Hindi Teacher in Vidyavardhaka First Grade College and JSS Degree College, Mysuru.

Council President Dr. H.M. Nagaraju will preside. For details, contact Mob: 99804-12406, according to a press release from Council Secretary K.S. Krishna.

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64th Heritage Music Fest at 8th Cross Ganesha Pandal

Vid. Melukote Nagesh

Vid. T.M. Krishna

Nemmara Brothers

Akkarai Sisters

Vid. Rahul Vellal

Vidu. Prithvi Bhaskar

Vid. Vittal Ramamurthy

Vidu. Padma Shankar

Dr. Ranganatha Sharma

Vid. Abhishek Raghuram

Vid. Shruti Sagar

Ramana Balachandhran

Vid. Sunil Gargyan

Vid. Vinay Sharva

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Mysuru, the cultural capital of Karnataka, is resonant with the music of great maestros. **Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust, Mysuru,** has been playing a crucial role in preserving the continuity of this resonance by organising music concerts during Ganesha festival since over six decades at 8th Cross Ganesha Pandal in VV Mohalla.

All the maestros of Karnatak music, right from Chembai, T.N. Krishnan, K.V. Narayanaswamy, S. Ramanathan, S. Rajam, T.R. Mahalingam, Lalgudi Jayaraman, Paroor Gopalakrishnan, D.K. Jayaraman, T.N. Sheshagopalan, Madhurai Mani Iyer, R.K. Srikanthan, Umayalapuram Sivaraman, Vellore Ramabhadran, Palghat Raghu to youngsters like T.M. Krishna, Chitraveena N. Ravikiran have performed here umpteen number of times.

Even the maestros of Hindustani music like N. Rajam, Hariprasad Chourasia, Gangubai Hangal and Rajeev Taranath have considered it a privilege to perform at this 8th Cross Pandal.

SPVGMC Trust, which believes in training and educating the listeners, has also organised 'Learning Sessions' tutored by great maestros like S. Rajam, P.S. Narayanaswamy, Chitraveena N. Ravikiran, T.N. Sheshagopalan and such others. Highly enlightening and educative 'Lecture Demonstrations' of stalwarts like Umayalapuram Sivaraman, T.N. Krishnan, T.N. Sheshagopalan, Mannargudi Eswaran, have also been organised.

SPVGMC Trust has been playing the vital role of a cultural ambassador in carrying Karnatak music to the masses.

This year the Trust is celebrating its 64th anniversary by organising Heritage Music Festival at 8th Cross in V.V. Mohalla in association with Kannada and Culture Department from Aug. 27 to Sept. 8. The details are as follows:

August 27

6.45 pm: Nadaswara by Vid. Melukote Nagesh with Vid. Keshav Mohankumar on violin, Vid. B.S. Prashanth on mridanga and Vid. Sharath Koushik on ghata.

August 28

6 pm: Inauguration by Capt. G.R. Gopinath. Industrialist & SPVGMC Trust President M. Jagannath Shenoy will preside; **6.45 pm:** Vocal concert by Vid. T.M. Krishna, accompanied by Vidu. Akkarai Subhalakshmi on violin, Vid. Jayachandra Rao on mridanga and Vid. Chandrashekar Sharma on ghata.

August 29

5.30 pm: Theatre Songs by Chandrashekar Achar; **6.45 pm:** Nadaswara-Violin Jugalbandi by Nemmara Brothers (Vid. Nemmara Kannan & Vid. Nemmara Anand Brahma) and Akkarai Sisters (Vidu. Akkarai Subhalakshmi and Vidu. Akkarai Sornalatha), with Vid. Jayachandra Rao on mridanga and Vid. Chandrashekar Sharma on ghata.

August 30

5.30 pm: Theatre Songs by Chandrashekar Achar; **6.45 pm:** Vocal duet by Akkarai Sisters with Vid. G.S. Gokul on violin, Vid. Jayachandra Rao on mridanga, Vid. Guruprasanna on khanjira and Vid. Giridhar Udupa on ghata.

August 31

10 am: Sri Satyanarayana Puja; **5.30 pm:** Folk songs by Raghuleela School of Music students led by Dr. Sunitha Chandrakumar; **6.45 pm:** Vocal concert by Vid. Rahul Vellal with Vid. H.N. Bhaskar on violin, Vid. Sai Giridhar on mridanga and Vid. G.S. Ramanujam on ghata.

September 1

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Harikathamrutasaara - Ganapati Stotra Sandhi' Kavya Vaachana by Vidu. Sandhya Ramesh and Vyakyana by Vid. A. Niranjan; **6.45 pm:** Vocal concert by Vidu. Prithvi Bhaskar, accompanied by Vid. H.N. Bhaskar on violin, Vid. Sai Giridhar on mridanga and Vid. Shamith Gowda on ghata.

September 2

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Koushika Ramayana - Bharata Paduke' Kavya Vaachana by Vid. Dr. Manjunath and Vyakyana by Vid. Dr. Ramasheshan; **6.45 pm:** Violin duet by Vid. Vittal Ramamurthy and Vidu. Padma Shankar, accompanied by Vid. Bangalore Praveen on mridanga and Vid. Bharadwaj R. Sathavalli on morching.

September 3

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Jaimini Bharata' Kavya Vaachana by Vidu. Satya Lakshmi Padmesh and Vyakyana by Vid. C.M. Subbanna; **6.45 pm:** Vocal concert by Dr. Sherthalai Ranganatha Sharma with Vid. Vittal Ramamurthy on violin, Vid. Bangalore Praveen on mridanga and Vid. Vazhappally Krishnakumar on ghata.

September 4

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Manuchola Ragale' Kavya Vaachana by Vidu. Shubha Raghavendra and Vyakyana by Prof. Morabada Mallikarjun; **6.45 pm:** Vocal-Flute concert by Vid. Abhishek Raghuram and Vid. Shruti Sagar with Vid. Sumesh Narayanan on mridanga and Vid. Vazhappally Krishnakumar on ghata.

September 5

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Kalidasana Meghadhoota' Kavya Vaachana by Vidu. Dharitri Ananda Rao and Vyakyana by Vid. T.N. Prabhakar; **6.45 pm:** Veena concert by Vid. Ramana Balachandhran, accompanied by Vid. Sumesh Narayanan on mridanga and Pt. Ishaan Ghosh on tabla.

September 6

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Adipurana - Bharata Bahubali Yuddha Prasanga' Kavya Vaachana by Vidu. Tanushree and Vyakyana by Vidu. Dr. Sandhya N. Deepak; **6.45 pm:** Vocal concert by Sunil Gargyan accompanied by Vid. Raghul on violin, Vid. Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman on mridanga and Vid. B.S. Purushotham on khanjira.

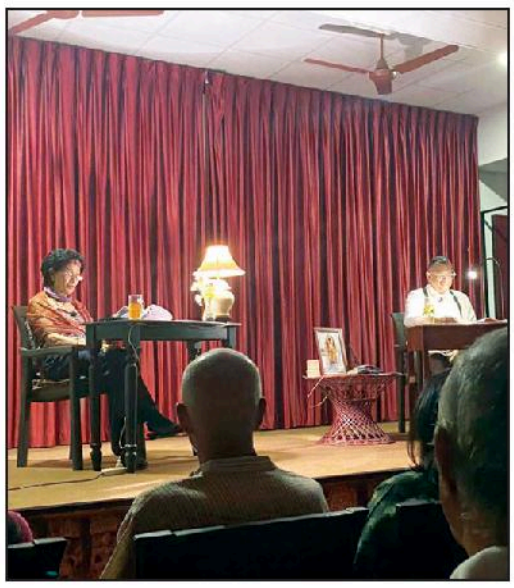
September 7

5.30 pm: Gamaka Vaachana Programme — 'Kumaravyasa Bharata - Bhishma Bhakti Prasanga' Kavya Vaachana by Vidu. Gangamma Keshavamurthy and Vyakyana by Vidu. Dr. Jyothi Shankar; **6.45 pm:** Cascade of Melody and Rhythm — Vid. Vinay Sharva on vocal, Vid. Mannargudi V. Shankararaman on harmonium, Vid. Amit Nadig on flute, Vid. Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman on mridanga, Vid. Bharadwaj R. Sathavalli on morching and Vid. Arun Kumar on Rhythm Pad.

September 8

6 am: Nagara Sankeertane; **8 am:** Nakshatra Homa by Vedic Scholar Challakere Brothers; **12.30 pm:** Purnahuti, Mahamangalarati & Prasada Viniyoga ▪

Tender *Love Letters* mesmerise audience



Mysuru, Aug. 25- The English play 'Love Letters,' authored by A.R. Gurney, was staged by the artistes of Mysore English Theatre Forum (METF) at Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture (JCAC) at Vijayanagar here yesterday.

A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, 'Love Letters' traces the lifelong, complex relationship between two characters through a series of letters exchanged over decades. It is a play built entirely on the power of words, silences and what lies between the lines, and METF's rendition rose beautifully to that challenge.

Kitty Mandana and Badri Narayan Krishnan, both from Mysuru, were, quite simply, made for their roles. Their readings were subtle, textured and emotionally pitch-perfect, effortlessly drawing the audience into the private, evolving world of two characters who never share the stage, yet are intimately bound by a lifetime of correspondence. Their fictional personas felt fully lived in and the chemistry between their voices was remarkable.

The set design was an understated delight, charming period furniture adorned with delicate vases and soft table lamps. Director Dr. Krishna Prasad's casting was, as he himself noted, the true highlight of the play.

Behind the scenes, the production was impeccably managed by Dr. Nima Manjrekar and the entire presentation stood as a testament to what passionate, theatre-loving doctors can create when they step beyond their day jobs.

In a world that moves too fast, 'Love Letters' reminded us of the enduring beauty of slow, handwritten affection and this METF production captured that spirit with elegance, heart and a touch of Mysurean magic.

KSCA MAHARAJA TROPHY

TODAY'S MATCHES (AUG. 25)

- **Namma Shivamogga** Vs **Hubli Tigers** 3.15 pm
- **Managaluru Dragons** Vs **Gulbarga Mystics** 7.15 pm

Venue: SDNR Wadiyar Stadium, Manasagangothri

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

- **Bengaluru Blasters** 146/9 (20 overs) LOST TO **Mangaluru Dragons** 149/1 (16.1 overs)
- **Mysore Warriors** 180/6 (20 overs) LOST TO **Shivamogga Lions** 181/7 (20 overs)

Catch the live action on Star Sports 1 (English) and Star Sports 1 Kannada and FanCode

Wins gold in CBSE South Zone II Roller Skating Championship

V. Harshita

Mysuru, Aug. 25- V. Harshita, a Class 8 student of Learners Global School, Mysuru, has won gold medal in the CBSE South Zone II Roller Skating Championship 2025.

Over 3,000 skaters from four South Indian States — Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa — along with three Union Territories took part in the Championship held at TYSA International Roller Sports Arena in Palakkad from Aug. 22 to 24, hosted by Vyasa Vidya Peethom, Kallekkad, Palakkad.

Harshita is the daughter of Vijay Rao and Suhasini, residents of Sathagalli, Mysuru.

Mythological Theatre Songs to mark Ganesha Festival

Mysuru, Aug. 25- The historic Sri Mahalingeshwara Temple at K. Hemmanahalli (Bogadi Road, 9th kilometre) will host Ganesha Festival celebrations on Wednesday (Aug. 27) with a unique highlight — a musical presentation of songs from mythological dramas.

The festivities will begin at 8 am with special abhisheka, alankara seva and maha mangalarati, followed by the distribution of prasada to devotees.

From 10 am onwards, a Ranga Sangeetha programme will be held, featuring harmonium by R. Manjunath of K. Hemmanahalli, accompanied by tabla and clarinet. More than 30 artistes will render songs from traditional mythological plays.

For details, contact Mob: 94492-64920.

Medal winner in Master's Badminton Championships

Maleyanda Arun Poovaiah

Madikeri (Kodagu), Aug. 25- Maleyanda Arun Poovaiah, a former International Badminton player, has won Men's Singles title, Mixed Doubles Trophy and emerged Runners-up in Men's Doubles Category at the PAN India Golden Master's Badminton Championships held at Vardhan's Vision Sports Club in R.R. Nagar Bengaluru recently.

Along with trophies, cash prize was also awarded.

A native of Nelji, Napoklu in Kodagu, Arun is presently based in Bengaluru and is involved in coaching budding Badminton players.

Samaagama 2025: Bharatanatyam Festival in city on Aug. 30, 31

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Samaagama 2025, the Annual Bharatanatyam Festival presented by Nruthyathi Kalaashaale, will be held at Ganabharathi's Ramagovinda Kalavedike on Aug. 30 and 31 at 5.30 pm.

The Festival holds a special place this year as it coincides with the 6th anniversary of Nruthyathi Kalaashaale, founded by Anusha Varun, who has trained over 500 students across India and abroad since 2008. Over the years, the institution has become a platform for nurturing young talent and carrying forward the heritage of Bharatanatyam with devotion and discipline.

Day-1 will feature the collective brilliance of more than 100 students, presenting a vibrant repertoire of Bharatanatyam. The evening will be inaugurated by Guru Sandesh Bhargav, Bharatanatyam exponent and Vice-President of Kaynes Technology, Mysuru. Enhancing the performances will be a live orchestra, featuring Anusha Varun (Nattuvanga), Vid. Shylaja Praveen (Vocals), Vid. G.T. Swamy (Mridanga), Vid.Samruddh (Flute) and Vid. Vinay Kumar Rangadhol (Rhythm Pad).

On Day-2, the stage will transform into a canvas of storytelling with 'Vishwamithra Gayathri,' a thematic dance presentation by the disciples of Guru Sandesh Bhargav (Kala Sandesha Prathishtana, Mysuru), inspired by the works of scholar *Padma Shri* Dr. Bannanje Govindacharya.

For details, contact T.C. Bhoomika of Nruthyathi Kalaashaale on Mob: 78992-72353.

Excel in Yoga Championship

Manvitha

Bharat

Mysuru, Aug. 25- P.S. Manvitha, a 6th std. student of Sri Chamarajendra School for Excellence, won first place in the District-level Yogasana Championship organised by the Karnataka Yogasana Association at Manasarovar Pushkarini Vidyashrama here recently. She has also been selected for the State-level Championship.

Also, Class 8 student Bharat Dhuttaragi secured fourth place in the same Championship.

WORD OF THE DAY

Cloister

Pronunciation: KLOY-ster (Verb)
Meaning: To cloister someone or something is to shut the person or thing away from the world.
Origin: Cloister first entered the English language as a noun in the 13th century, referring then (as it still does) to a convent or monastery. More than three centuries later, English speakers began using the verb cloister to mean "to seclude in or as if in a cloister." Today, the noun can also refer to the monastic life or to a covered and usually arched passage along or around a court. You may also encounter the adjective cloistered with the meaning "separated from the rest of the world [as if in a cloister]," as in "She leads a private, cloistered life in the country." Cloister ultimately comes from the Latin verb claudere, meaning "to close." Other words that can be traced back to the prolific claudere include close, conclude, exclude, include, preclude, seclude and recluse.
Example: "Now, the past Melbourne High student body president and co-valedictorian is planning to step down Jan. 20 after serving nearly four years as NASA's administrator. ... 'My constitution is such that I'm not going to retire. And what I said is, I'm going to cloister myself and write a book. And then, we'll see what happens,' [Bill] Nelson, who is now 82, told reporters Wednesday during a roundtable discussion at the Kennedy Space Center Press Site." — Rick Neale, Florida Today, 19 Dec. 2024

THE ODD WORD

Kakorrhaphiophobia
Fear of failure.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Add Insult to Injury

Meaning: The phrase 'add insult to injury' is used in a situation when something happened or was said that upset you, after you've already been upset about something else.
Origin: This phrase is a real ancient one, in fact it's one of the oldest of expressions we know of, it goes back to the Ancient Greek Aesop's Fables (circa 620-560 B.C.).
Example: "My car broke down in the middle of nowhere, then, to add insult to injury, it started to rain."

QUOTE BOX

I have never met a man so ignorant that I couldn't learn something from him. **—Galileo Galilei**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Wide Angle Lens.

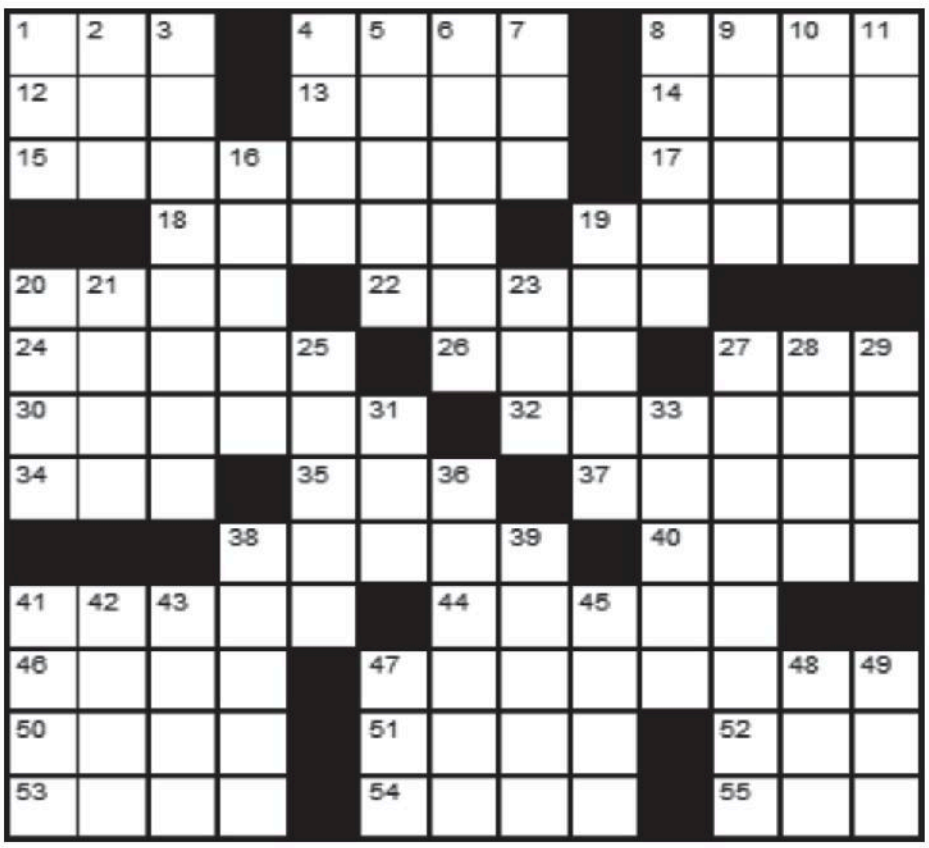
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Indian Police Service, acronym
4 French Marquis, a famous novelist
8 Blazer
12 Martial arts great Bruce ___
13 Nabokov novel
14 Ring of light
15 Tongue
17 Eire or Ireland?
18 Chances
19 Check the ore
20 Fencing sword
22 Dandies or fops
24 Crowded together
26 Footlike organ
27 European airline
30 Rock band ___ Monkeys
32 Public meetings
34 Mrs in Marseille
35 Man
37 A black tea - "a poke" anagram?
38 Belonging to those people
40 Another word for 'tunes'
41 Characteristic
44 Before time
46 Short person
47 Final
50 Italian volcano
51 Synthetic fruit drinks
52 Young goat
53 Aga ___ Cup : famous sporting trophy?
54 To be (Latin)
55 Inertial Navigation Sys.

DOWN
1 Out of sorts
2 Seed of a legume
3 Prison term
4 Goad a horse
5 One of the Amritraj brothers
6 Excavates or unearths? (4,2)
7 Compass dir.
8 Board game
9 Rowing blades
10 Among other things, inter ___
11 Theatre award
16 Visitor
19 Greek fabulist
20 Cheese "made" the wrong way?
21 Process of curling or waving one's hair, in a way?
23 Rock group ___ Leppard
25 Rowing crew
27 Japanese dish
28 Love, to Livy
29 Nav. readings
31 Billiards stick
33 Kingdom
36 Cedes, brings about
38 Huge or strong man
39 Assigns a ranking to
41 Long-distance migration
42 Biblical woman
43 ___ Karenina : Leo Tolstoy's heroine?
45 Ascend
47 United Arab Emirates, in short
48 Metal container
49 Walsh and O'Neill

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

I	S	I	S	■	A	K	A	■	S	C	A	M
R	I	S	C	■	T	E	L	L	T	A	L	E
I	N	T	E	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	A	L
S	H	O	N	E	■	■	O	T	R	A	■	■
■	■	■	E	G	O	■	■	E	E	R	I	E
T	O	T	■	I	M	M	E	R	S	I	N	G
H	E	R	■	S	A	C	R	A	■	E	R	A
U	N	I	T	T	R	U	S	T	■	S	E	N
D	E	F	O	E	■	■	T	U	M	■	■	■
■	■	■	E	U	R	O	■	■	R	O	M	E	O
S	E	C	R	E	T	M	E	E	T	I	N	G
O	P	T	E	D	O	U	T	■	T	E	I	L
B	R	A	D	■	E	D	E	■	O	N	D	E



SUDOKU

3		1						
					4			9
	4	6			5		7	
				6		4		5
		8	5		2	3		
5		4		9				
	9		7			5	8	
4			2					
						9		1

Answer to previous puzzle

2	1	4	3	5	7	8	6	9
9	3	5	2	6	8	4	7	1
6	8	7	4	9	1	2	3	5
7	2	1	8	3	5	6	9	4
3	5	9	7	4	6	1	2	8
8	4	6	1	2	9	7	5	3
1	6	8	9	7	3	5	4	2
4	7	3	5	1	2	9	8	6
5	9	2	6	8	4	3	1	7

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ADJMZKOR KA SC KTTMAKBC. TKED KA DKOPDZ S

LSZKCQ SLGDCOMZD BZ KO KA CBOPKCQ SO STT.

TODAY'S CLUE: Q EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Nature didn't make us perfect so she did the next best thing; she made us blind to our faults.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

Sangam Theatre **Ph: 2520494**
Su From So (K) - 4 Shows

Mahadeshwara Theatre **Mob: 99008-20093**
Su From So (K) - 4 Shows

Gayathri Theatre **Ph: 2443568**
Coolie (K) - 4 Shows

Woodlands Theatre **Ph: 2422871**
Coolie (K) - 1 Show; *Coolie (Ta)* - 3 Shows

Rajkamal Theatre **Ph: 2423554**
War 2 (Te) - 4 Shows

Padma Theatre **Ph: 2521923**
Indra (Ta) - 4 Shows

Prabha Theatre **Mob: 98454-14691**
Just Married (K) - 2 Shows; *Kamaro2 (K)* - 2 Shows

Balaji Theatre **Mob: 98863-25207**
War 2 (H) - 3 Shows

Lido Theatre **Ph: 2420885**
Hacche (K) - 2 Shows; *War 2 (Te)* - 2 Shows;

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	(S-1)	10 am, 4.15 pm; (S-3) 10 am
Just Married (K)	(S-1)	1.35 pm
War 2 (H)	(S-1)	6.55 pm; (S-2) 9.50 am; (S-4) 10.10 pm
Nobody 2 (E)	(S-1)	10.30 pm; (S-4) 1.10 pm
Indra (Ta)	(S-2)	1.25 pm
Meghalli Cheppina Prema Katha (Te)	(S-2)	4.05 pm
Rippan Swamy (K)	(S-2)	7 pm
Su From So (K)	(S-2)	10.10 pm; (S-3) 7.30 pm
	(S-4)	10.20 am, 4 pm
Coolie (K)	(S-3)	12.45 pm
Coolie (Ta)	(S-3)	4.05 pm; (S-4) 6.45 pm
Kamarottu 2 (K)	(S-3)	10.20 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	:	10.30 am, 7.45 pm
Su From So (K)	:	10.40 am, 1.20 pm, 4.05 pm
		6.50 pm, 9.30 pm
Coolie (K)	:	11.45 am, 3 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
Coolie (Ta)	:	12.15 pm, 4.30 pm
War 2 (H)	:	1.10 pm, 6.05 pm
Just Married (K)	:	3.30 pm
Kamaro2 (K)	:	9.20 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Ph: 0821-230 0402

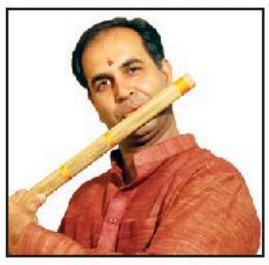
Coolie (Ta)	:	8.55 am, 12.05 pm, 3.30 pm
		6.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Coolie (K)	:	11.25 am, 2.50 pm, 6.15 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K)	:	9.10 am, 10 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (H-3D)	:	12 noon, 4.55 pm
Su From So (K)	:	9.10 am, 10.40 am, 1.30 pm
		4.20 pm, 7.10 pm, 10.10 pm
War 2 (H)	:	10.10 am, 12 noon, 3.30 pm, 7 pm, 10.30 pm
Bring Her Back (E)	:	1.40 pm, 7.45 pm
Nobody 2 (E)	:	2.45 pm, 9.30 pm
Kamaro2 (K)	:	4.05 pm
Just Married (K)	:	6.50 pm
Coolie: The Powerhouse (H)	:	9.40 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 88009 00009

War 2 (H)	:	8.45 am, 12 noon, 3.30 pm
		7 pm, 10.30 pm
Su From So (K)	:	9.20 am, 12.55 pm, 4.50 pm
		7.10 pm 10.30 pm
Coolie (Ta)	:	9.45 am, 3.45 pm, 10 pm
Coolie (K)	:	12.10 pm, 3.30 pm, 6.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Hacche (K)	:	11 am
Mahavatar Narsimha (K)	:	2 pm, 7.40 pm

Bansuri recital tomorrow

Pt. Nityanand Haldipur


Ravi Shankar Mishra

Dr. Uday Raj Karpur

Pradyumna Karpur

Mysuru, Aug. 25- As part of 'Parampara: Celebrating the heritage and legacy of Hindustani Classical Music,' Raag Milan has organised a soulful bansuri recital by the legendary flautist Pandit Nityanand Haldipur (Mumbai) at Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture in Vijayanagar here tomorrow (Aug. 26) at 6.30 pm. He will be accompanied by his disciple Ravi Shankar Mishra on flute while Pandit Uday Raj Karpur and his son Pradyumna Karpur on tabla.

PROFILES

Pandit Nityanand Haldipur — ranked among India's leading flautists and a senior disciple of the reclusive genius, *Padma Bhushan* Annapurna Devi — represents the pure essence of a highly revered musical heritage.

Born in Bombay in a deeply spiritual family, Pt. Nityanand was fortunate to have the right environment for his latent musical talents to blossom. His first guru who initiated him into the art, technique and aesthetics of flute-playing was his father, late Niranjan Haldipur — a senior disciple of the renowned flute maestro, late Pt. Pannalal Ghosh.

Over the next two decades, Nityanand's training continued under late Pandit Chidanand Nagarkar and Pandit Devendra Murdeshwar, senior most disciple of late Pandit Pannalal Ghosh, under whom Nityanand perfected his technique.

However, it was after 1986, when *Padma Bhushan* Annapurna Devi — doyen of the Senia-Maihar Gharana and daughter of the legendary Ustad Allauddin Khansaheb (Baba), the fountain head of the gharana — accepted him as one of her disciples, that Nityanand's talent and musicianship truly flowered. It progressively acquired depth, maturity and a new dimension.

A Top Grade artiste of All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan, Nityanand has participated in the National Programme of Music and the AIR Sangeet Sammelan. In 2010, Nityanand Haldipur was given the highest award for his contribution to Indian classical music by Sangeet Natak Academy, GoI, New Delhi.

Ravi Shankar Mishra is among the finest flautists of the younger generation, having begun his training with his father, Pandit Dinesh Chandra Mishra, before becoming a disciple of Pandit Nityanand Haldipur, a torch-bearer of Pandit Pannalal Ghosh's legacy. He also received guidance from the late *Padma Bhushan* Abdul Halim Jaffer Khan, whom he revered as a mentor. A versatile artiste, Ravi has performed extensively in India and internationally, including at UNESCO (Paris), and collaborated with leading jazz and classical musicians. Alongside his performances, he is a dedicated teacher and an expert craftsman of Indian bamboo flutes, combining artistry with tradition to inspire audiences and students alike.

Pandit Uday Raj Karpur is one of the top ranking tabla artistes of Karnataka. He holds a Doctorate in tabla & has accompanied leading musicians of our country like Pt. Rajeev Taranath, Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, Gangubai Hangal, Pt. Venkatesh Kumar and Praveen Godkhindi. Dr. Uday has also toured throughout India and abroad accompanying top classical artistes.

Pradyumna Karpur, born in a musical family, started taking tabla lessons from the age of 5 from his father. Presently he is receiving advance lessons from Taal Yogi *Padma Shri* Pt. Suresh Talwalkar Guruji.

Recognised by AIR as a child artiste, he is also promoted by various organisations and has performed in prestigious platforms all over India.

EVENTS TOMORROW (AUG. 26)

- **Ramsons Kala Pratishtana:** 21st edition of Bombe Mane, No. 91, Main Road, Nazarbad, **10 am to 7 pm.**
- **Sahara Arts and Crafts:** Shopping Festival, Scouts & Guides Ground, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 78299-99465

Coolie (Ta)	:	9.50 am, 4.45 pm, 7.05 pm
Coolie (K)	:	12.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Su From So (K)	:	10 am, 12.50 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.30 pm
		9.20 pm, 10.30 pm
War 2 (H)	:	10.05 am, 1.15 pm, 6.30 pm, 10 pm
Mahavatar Sarsimha (K-3D)	:	10.10 am, 4.20 pm
Nobody 2 (E)	:	1.35 pm, 8.10 pm
Kamaro2 (K)	:	3.45 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Ph: 0821-4283555

Coolie (K)	:	9.45 am, 4.10 pm, 6.45 pm
Coolie (Ta)	:	12.45 pm, 10.30 pm
War 2 (H)	:	9.50 am, 4.10 pm, 10 pm
Su From So (K)	:	9.55 am, 10.45 am, 1.20 pm
		3.55 pm, 7.40 pm, 10.10 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-2D)	:	1.10 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	:	7.35 pm, 10.20 pm
Hacche (K)	:	1.40 pm
Love Matteru (K)	:	4.30 pm
Just Married (K)	:	7.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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